

## EDITORIAL NOTE

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Current events are a daily intrusion, especially in times of war. Corporate misconduct has also been prominently featured. Perhaps it is inevitable that our Journal would also refer to these exigencies. We beg your indulgence, because we publish no news accounts but rather reflections from those among us who may be a bit more knowledgeable than the media. **GB**

### BRIEFS

**Don Mayer** gives us some insights into human behavior which influence adversely the neat paradigms which corporations have created for themselves. Case in point-Enron.

Can the dilemma of nation building in Iraq be resolved?

**Paul Kubicek** asked his Honors College class to try.

**Kiichi Usui** was a valuable contributor to campus culture, both as curator of the Meadowbrook Gallery and as an artist.

**Brian Murphy** reflects on his life and art.

Where did Oakland University come from? Like many an academic enterprise it started as a memo, and it wasn't even called Oakland University but Matilda Wilson College. **Paul** and **Alice Tomboulian** bring this forgotten bit of history to our attention.

Many of us have been spared from military service, so we can only imagine what it might be like for an 18-year old to enter the services. **Alice Carleton** did it some years ago and actually found it inspiring. She shares a chapter on basic training from her autobiography.

**Gertrude White** remembers her late husband's fervent passion-collecting rare books.

**Sean Porter** has actually traveled to Nicaragua for two summers, and reports the disturbing results of globalization there.

One of the casualties of the war in Iraq was the Baghdad Museum. **Susan Wood** reports on the looting and just what the cultural heritage of the region means.

**Scott Irwin** writes of the musical influences in the writings of Ralph Ellison.

Our reporter from the dismal science, **Sherman Folland**, presents his solution to Oakland's parking problems.

**Pamela Light** gives us some of her poems.

